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Newsletter

Number 26

19 October 2012

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Thanks

.. To all of those people who contributed in any way whatsoever to our Calf Club Day this week ... a real team effort. And to National and ASB Banks, Ringrose Stockfoods for their sponsorship for their sponsorship and support.

.. And a special thanks to Alison Faithfull, Cass Whalen and Steve Martin for their leadership, expertise and enthusiasm in the run up to (and on) the day. And to those who judged animals or exhibits.

.. To those dads, granddads and children who donated cakes for our highly successful cake auction.

.. To Shane Attwood who very kindly sprayed the school grounds for Onehunga Weed over the school holidays. Much appreciated Shane.

Good Luck

.. To our senior debating teams who participate in the debating finals at Pompallier College next Thursday.

People of the week

.. Emma who wrote a fantastic story this week about cats.

.. Those people who supported this week's raffle and cake auction. You might be interested to know that the cake auction raised \$321 for toys for the junior sandpit, \$184 for construction equipment for the middle school and \$204 for educational games for the senior school.

.. **Allan Howe (Kamo Scrap Metals) who donated ALL of the sand for our new sandpit saving the school many hundreds of dollars.**

Coming up this term

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 22 October | Labour Day holiday (travel safely) |
| 23 October | After school maths labs start up |
| 24 October | After school science labs start |
| 24 October | Year 3 and 4 Camp Meeting (5:30 PM in the staffroom) |
| 25 October | Senior Debating Finals - Pompallier School |
| 30 October | Year 4 Camp at Marsden Bay |
| 30 October | Meeting for those interested in hearing more about our year 7 and 8 programme - 7:00 PM - Room 12 |
| 1 November | Year 3 students join the year 4 camp at Marsden Bay |
| 6 November | Zone Athletics at Poroti School (pp 3.11) |
| 13 November | Whangarei Boys' High School testing (now at Matarau) |
| 13 November | BoT meeting |
| 21 November | Year 7 and 8 visit to Northland Polytechnic |
| 27 November | Year 7 and 8 Interschool Athletics (pp 29.11) |
| 28 November | Whangarei Girls' High School orientation |
| 29 November | Year 7 and 8 abseiling at Whangarei Falls |
| 4 December | Year 5 and 6 Interschool Athletics |
| 10 December | School team athletics day |
| 11 December | BoT meeting |
| 12 December | Reports sent home |
| 13 December | School Prize Giving |
| 18 December | Final day of school |

Virtues

This term we will spend time exploring "friendship" and what this means. We will explore how we make friends and keep friends .. including how to deal with the little problems that crop up along the way. More to follow.

Sunhats

Sunhats must be worn by all children from next week please. Our school hat is a navy blue bucket hat & must be worn each day in terms 4 & 1. They can be purchased from the school office for \$9.00.

Can you help?

One of our wonderful parents has been petitioning council for footpaths on Matarau Road and has indicated that our chances will be strengthened if we can unblock the drain on the far (roadside) corner of the bottom field. This drain is quite blocked and will require some sort of digger (possibly capable of reaching over a fence). If you think you might be able to help (we are happy to hire a digger) please contact Kevin next week.

Maths Labs

.. will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30 to 4:30 PM starting next week (Room 11). If you received a letter suggesting that your child might benefit from these labs, and you have not yet returned their consent, please return this to school on Tuesday. Places are limited and we are targeting those children we believe stand most to benefit from a 'boost' in this area. Parents of children in labs are reminded to send afternoon tea with their child on the day of their lab and to pick them up please at 4:30. Any questions please to Mr Trehwella or Mrs Donaldson.

Science Labs

.. will be held each Wednesday 3:30 to 4:30 starting next week (Room 11). A reminder that children will need to bring covered shoes (for safety) and an old shirt (as a lab coat). The interest in this programme significantly outstripped the number of available places (allocated on a first in basis) and so we really do apologise to those families unable to secure places. We are considering making this programme available again next year (along with a number of new options) and will give priority placement to those families who applied and missed out this year.

AFL KiwiKick - Friday afternoons - starts 26th October.

AFL KiwiKick is a national coaching program designed to teach children of primary and intermediate school age motor skills and ball skills. It's fun, it's safe, and it works. As well as having great fun with your mates while learning sport skills and playing games, registering for AFL KiwiKick also delivers great benefits. What are the benefits? **For Parents** - Every 'After School' centre will have AFLNZ qualified employees present for both coaching, co-ordination and to enlist the support of participation from parents.

For the Kids - AFL KiwiKick allows children to play sport in a relaxed environment where making friends, having fun with their parents, being part of a team, being physically active and improving their fundamental skills are given equal weight. It also provides excellent social value.

Each registered AFL KiwiKick participant will receive a football, bag and several other items.

Cost: \$50 for 8 supervised sessions and an AFL KiwiKick Kit (Please make cheques out to AFL New Zealand). Registration forms at the office.

Camp Meeting - 24/10

The parents of year 3 and 4 children are advised that a camp meeting will be held at 5:30pm October 24 in the staffroom. This will be an opportunity to brief parents, answer questions and make final arrangements. We hope you can make it. Any questions in the run up to camp to Mrs Scheibmair please.

Go For Gold Reading Programme

Please keep this programme rolling at home. It is still possible for students to lift their placings on the medals table. We will have a Go For Gold award ceremony at our assembly on 29 October (starting 2:30).

Year 7 and 8 Pubertal Change Programme

.. gets under way in Rooms 11 and 12 from Monday 29 October. The involvement of parents is important and so please talk to your child about what they have learnt and view and sign their workbook often. Teachers are more than happy to answer any questions during the course of this unit - please keep in touch.

A meeting has been scheduled for 3:15 Tuesday 23 October (in the staffroom) for those with questions and so we encourage you to pencil in this date.

Headlice Inspection

Will be held Friday 26 October 2012. Please contact Donna Cates at school if able to help out. All parents are asked to check their children's hair weekly and to take necessary action promptly in the event of infestation.

Home Garden Programme

A reminder that during the holidays it was suggested that children ..

- .. get their garden established (mindful of access to sun, shelter, water etc)
- .. purchase some suitable seedlings (or pot fast growing plants). Minimum 6 plants.
- .. ensure they have a compost in operation
- .. make a start to their diaries (especially the garden layout)

We met today to share and answer questions and will set a date for the optional sharing of seeds / seedlings fairly soon. Home gardens will be judged on 1 December ... more to follow. Don't hesitate to give Kevin a call next week with any questions.

Operation Christmas Child

You will no doubt recall that we are supporting a Samaritans Purse International Relief Project which ships toys and gifts to children in countries torn apart by war, famine, natural disasters or extreme poverty. A shoe box full of gifts (with maybe a wee message) can bring untold joy at Christmas to a child who has/is experiencing deprivation or trauma. **In order to get these items to the children concerned it is necessary for us to set a final date of 25 October (next Thursday) for final receipt of items.** You could include good quality items of clothing (e.g. t shirt, cap, beanie), something to cuddle (e.g. teddy bear, soft toy), something special (e.g. carry bag, sunglasses, bangles, necklaces, a personal note), something for school (e.g. exercise book, pencils, sharpener, eraser), something to play (tennis ball, skipping rope, yo-yo) with or items for personal hygiene (e.g. soap, toothbrush, comb, brush, hair clips).

If interested in taking part (no pressure) you could ..

- .. drop items to your child's class and their class will make up the shoe boxes
 - .. OR collect a shoebox yourself from the office and fill it at home and return to school with \$9 for postage
 - .. OR you could just drop \$9 (or any amount) in to pay (help pay) for postage of someone else's shoebox
- Shoeboxes and forms are available at the office from Monday or just drop suitable items to your child's class. Questions please to the office or to Tilda Jongkind on 4335581.

*(.. for customs reasons we are unable to take items that leak or melt, food or lollies, **obviously used or damaged items**, breakable items, knives, war-related toys, anything of a religious, racial or political nature).*

Enrolments 2013

We will shortly be considering class profiles and placements for 2013 .. if there are students who will not be with us next year it would be helpful if the parents of these children could let us know next week so that we can make these places available for other students.

International Student Homestays

We have had a couple of people indicate that they would be interested in hosting short stay international students in their homes. We have had very successful home stays this last term and would like to grow our "bank" of available homes for next year. Each student pays around \$180 per week. If interested please contact Donna Cates in the school office next week.

Term Dates 2013

For your interest the Board of Trustees has set term dates for the 2013 school year as follows ..

Term 1	4 Feb to 19 April	Term 2	6 May to 12 July
Term 3	29 July to 27 Sept	Term 4	14 October to .. <i>(to be confirmed)</i>

Out of Zone Applications

As anticipated, the number of applications for out of zone places for 2013 has exceeded the number of available places. In accordance with the Education Act a ballot will be held (under police supervision) on 23 October. The outcome of this ballot will be advised by the end of next week. If you are successful in this ballot please advise acceptance (or decline) as soon as possible so that we can offer this place to another family should you decide to decline. **The school has continued to receive enrolment enquiries throughout the week and so it would be helpful if you can spread the word that there are no further available places in years 1 to 6 .. a limited number of places are still available at years 7 and 8.** Thank you.

Please understand that the rules we are applying are mandated by the Ministry of Education and we can make no exceptions to these rules and cannot demonstrate preference for one applicant over another.



Wild West Showdown

Aka the Matarau School Ball 2012

Meet the Sheriff at Sundown 10th Nov 2012

WANTED: Gunslingers & Saloon Girls

Reward on your head for Best Dressed

The Saloon opens 7pm Music: The Kiwi Rock Band



Final word

We have had very positive feedback on yesterday's Calf Club Day. We will debrief within the next couple of weeks to identify areas for improvement next year but the general feeling has been that the day went well. Thank you to those who chipped in to help, to those who supported fund-raising efforts and to those who clapped and encouraged the children. It was great to see so many parents and grandparents here and also to see an increase in the numbers of calves and lambs.

Calf Club Raffle Winners

Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket. Congratulations to our winners:

1st - Charlie Agnew (\$150 Farmlands Vouchers); 2nd Darryl Hamilton (RD1 Water Blaster), 3rd Michele Martin (\$50 Countdown Voucher); 4th Debbie Glendinning (Towels).

This will be a busy term. While assessments, data analysis, upgrading of records, writing of reports, prize giving etc loom large, we will also shortly be identifying areas for development in 2013. We have some exciting things planned for 2013 and look forward to sharing these with you as our vision takes shape.

Travel safely if going away for Labour Weekend. Welcome back! (p.s. doesn't the sandpit look great!)

Regards,
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support

Community Notices

Skate Night - Saturday November 3rd, 6.30 – 8.30pm; Portland Recreation Centre – McGill Road, Portland; Hire Skates Available, Bring your own socks, \$5 entry \$1 skate hire.

For Rent - Very tidy 2 bedroom house to rent. 18 Charles Street, Kamo. \$220pw; Call 435 3002 to view.

Maunu School Country Fair to be held on 3 November 2012 from 10am to 2pm, corner Austin Road and SH14. Lots of parking and eftpos available.

Ruatangata Playcentre Open Tuesdays 9.30-12.30 0-6 yrs New Members or Casual Visits welcome. **AGM** Wednesday October 24th, 7.30pm (26 Matarau Road) All welcome.

Northern Rabbit and Cavy Club - Christmas show on the 17th November 2012. All children and adults are welcome to enter their pet rabbits, guinea pigs, rats and mice. Entries close on the October 29th. Contact the club on 022 6310647 for more info.

Toolbox parenting groups in Northland - With the right tools anyone can be a great parent. Join a Toolbox parenting group and learn how to build a great family team. Toolbox groups are free of charge thanks to government funding. There are three courses you can choose from: The Early Years (0-6 years); The Middle Years (6-12); Tweens and Teens (12-18); If you would like more information about Toolbox parenting groups in Northland contact Debbie on 09 433 5040

Babysitter available- in the Ruatangata/Matarau area, \$7 per hour, please phone Anna Miller 094356474 or text 0210524279. (Note from the school office... Anna would be an awesome babysitter, very responsible and great with little ones!!)

Learn to Ski/Open Day at Kai Iwi Lakes Water Ski Club on 10 November 10am to 3pm. Free skiing, bouncy castle, lolly scramble, sausage sizzle etc. Join the club on the day and save the joining fee. - come and see Max & Xanthe Adams and they can show you what to do.

TRAIL RIDE Sunday 11th November 2012 at Opuawhanga on Whananaki North Road, Registration from 8.30am onwards. First ride 10.00am Last ride 2.45pm. More info Hikurangi School 4338 545

Fundraising Reminders

Chocolates and or Chocolate money was due back at school this week. Please return any unsold chocolate and monies from sales on Tuesday next week. Thank you for your support.

Compost ... flyer attached. \$30 per trailer load from the Fonterra depot on Jordan Valley Road.

Wild West Showdown ... flyer attached. Great night out, music, food, entertainment. Tickets on sale at the office.

Horse Trek ... Saturday 17th November. 3 hour loop, easy terrain and great views. 3 mins from Matarau School. Registrations to school office by 14th November. More information from Alina 4338998.